

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
3280 RUSSELL ROAD
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134-5103

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MP
2 Mar 23

Subj: RESPONSE TO DEFENSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN IN THE SERVICES
(DACOWITS) MARCH 2023; REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)#5

Ref: (a) DACOWITS RFIs for March 2023
(b) Department of Defense Instruction (DODI) 1304.26
(c) Marine Corps Recruiting Command (MCRC) Order 1100.1A
(d) Marine Corps Recruiting Command (MCRC) Order 1100.2

Per the reference, the below comments are provided in response to RFI #5
(Recruitment Initiatives to Increase Women's Propensity to Serve).

a. RFI #5a: The status of the Marine Corps' single parent policies regarding male and female applicant's ability to join via a waiver and the details of these policies.

Response: Per the Department of Defense Instruction (DODI) 1304.26, a dependent waiver is required when an applicant is married with more than (2) dependents under the age of 18 or when an applicant is unmarried and has custody of any dependents under the age of 18. The service follows the DoDI policy and Marine Corps has established procedures in accordance with the DoDI. The MCRC Order 1100.1A for enlistment details the process for waiver submissions in chapter 2, pages 2-12 through 2-26. Any applicant (male or female) must relinquish physical custody of minor dependents 90 days prior to commencement of enlistment process.

b. RFI #5b: The status of Marine Corps' single parent policies regarding male and female applicants' ability to commission via Officer Candidate School (OCS).

Response: Per the DoDI 1304.26, a dependent waiver is required when applicant is married with more than (2) dependents under the age of 18 or when an applicant is unmarried and has custody of any dependents under the age of 18. The service follows the DoDI policy and Marine Corps has established procedures in accordance with the DoDI. The MCRC Order 1100.2 for commissioning details the process for waiver submissions in chapter 2, pages 2-14 through 2-15 and page 4-17.

b. RFI #5c: The status of the Military Service Academies implementation of the Candidates Afforded Dignity, Equality and Training (CADET) Act outlined in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for FY22, which ensures cadets and midshipmen preserve parental guardianship rights and can become commissioned officers while raising a family.

Response: The Marine Corps does not have a Service Academy; however, there is a Marine option for those attending the U. S. Naval Academy and they follow navy regulations while in attendance.